

REMARKS

Claims 5-8 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-4 and 12-13 have been examined. Claims 1-4 and 12-13 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claim rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,909,210 to Knox.

In the response to arguments section at pages 7-8 of the January 23, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner indicates that certain features, which Applicant argued in the June 23, 2006 Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c) as distinguishing over the art of record, are not recited in the claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 1 and 12.

Amended claims 1 and 12 each recites the feature of selecting one of two functions, both of the two functions being performed by a certain key coupled to said keyboard, based on said detecting by said sensor. The positional function in Knox is effected by the movement of the user's fingers over *the keyboard*. In other words, the positional function is not a function performed by a certain key of the keyboard, as set forth by claim 1. For Knox to teach the feature recited in the claim (which Knox does not), Knox would have to show that 1) the typing function is effected by certain keys AND 2) the positional function is effected by certain keys. This latter feature is not shown by Knox. The positional function is not a function which is performed under normal operation by the keys on the Knox keyboard. For this reason, independent claims 1 and 12 are patentable over Knox.

Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 2 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Knox in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,396,483 to Hiller.

Claims 2 and 13 depend from claims 1 and 12 which have been shown above to be patentable over Knox. Hiller does not cure the deficiencies of Knox. Therefore, claims 2 and 13 are patentable over the Knox and Hiller combination.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,864,334 to Sellers in view of Knox.

Applicant has amended claim 3 in a similar manner to the amendments to claims 1 and 2 discussed above.

At col. 5, lines 57-59, Seller teaches switchable typing and cursor control modes, and keys in various positions on a keyboard, as shown in Fig. 1 at #29. This teaching is essentially the same as in Knox, discussed above. However, Sellers fail to teach that these functions are performed by the certain keys. While the typing function is performed by keys, the positional function of Sellers is not. In fact, Sellers teaches that the positional function is performed by independent cursor control devices such as “mice, trackballs, touchpads, and pointing sticks”. (see col. 1, lines 20-25). Since Sellers does not teach that the positional function is effected by the certain keys, claim 3 is patentably distinguished from Sellers and Knox, and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Sellers and Knox in view of Hiller.

Claim 4 depends from claim 3, which have been shown above to be patentable over the Sellers and Knox combination. Hiller does not cure the deficiencies of Sellers and Knox. Therefore, claim 4 is patentable over the Sellers/Knox/Hiller combination.

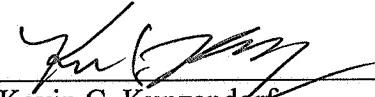
Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the § 103 rejections.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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